

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

Applicant(s): N. TAMURA  
Serial No.: (not yet assigned)  
Filed: September 10, 2003  
For: VACUUM PROCESSING APPARATUS AND VACUUM  
PROCESSING METHOD

**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT**  
**UNDER 37 CFR 1.97 & 1.98**

Mail Stop DD  
Commissioner for Patents  
P.O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

September 10, 2003

Sir:

In the matter of the above-identified application, this information disclosure statement is being submitted with the following citation as specified in 37 CFR 1.97(d).

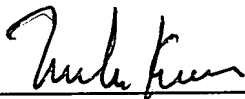
"A copy of any patent, publication or other information listed in an information disclosure statement is not required to be provided if it was previously cited by or submitted to the Office in a prior application, provided that the prior application is properly identified in the statement and relied upon for an earlier filing date under 35 U.S.C. 120."

Applicant(s) are submitting herewith a copy of Form PTO-1449 which list documents cited in parent application(s) Serial No. 10/218,406, filed August 15, 2002.

It is respectfully requested that this information disclosure statement be considered by the Examiner.

Please charge any shortage in the fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 01-2135 (648.41957CX1) and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read 'Melvin Kraus', written over a horizontal line.

Melvin Kraus

Registration No. 22,466

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Form PTO-1449  
Equivalent

U.S. Department of Commerce  
Patent and Trademark Office

Atty. Docket No. 648.41957CX1  
Serial No. (not yet assigned)  
Applicant: N. TAMURA  
Filing Date: September 10, 2003  
Group:

U.S. Patent Documents

Examiner Initials	Document No.	Date	Name	Class Subclass	Filing Date If Approp.
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Foreign Patent Documents

Document No.	Date	Country	Class Subclass	Translation Yes No
8-172034	7/96	Japan		

Other Documents (including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, etc.)

Examiner

Date Considered

\*Examiner: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609;  
Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next  
communication to applicant.